

On the Man

The Truman family moved to a farm near Harrisonville in 1885 and in 1886 to a farm near what is now Grandview. In 1890 they moved to Independence so the children could attend graded schools.

Harry Truman started to school in 1892 and was graduated from Independence High School in 1901. He got a job as a timekeeper for a railroad contractor for the Santa Fe Railway at Courtney, Missouri. Later he worked in the mailing room of the Kansas City Star at \$7.00 a week. He was employed at the National Bank of Commerce in Kansas City from 1903 to 1905 as a clerk at \$35 a month. He then transferred to the Union National Bank for eighteen months at a very much increased salary of \$60 a month. He returned to the farm in 1906 where he remained until 1917 as a partner of his father and brother.

In June of 1905 he joined Battery B of the Missouri National Guard as one of its charter members. He was interested in and helped to organize the 2nd Missouri Field Artillery, which later became the 129th Field Artillery of the 35th Division. At the outbreak of World War I he was sent to Camp Doniphan with his regiment as a first lieutenant in the Field Artillery. He was sent overseas with the overseas school detail on March 30, 1918. He received a promotion as captain on April 23, 1918, and was made Adjutant, Second Battalion, 129th Field Artillery. On July 11, 1918, he was placed in command of Battery D, 129th Field Artillery. He was discharged as a major in the United States Reserve Corps on May 6, 1919, and in 1927 he was commissioned a colonel in the Field Artillery Reserve.

Shortly after his discharge in May, 1919, he returned to Independence.

He married Miss Bess Wallace on June 28, 1919.

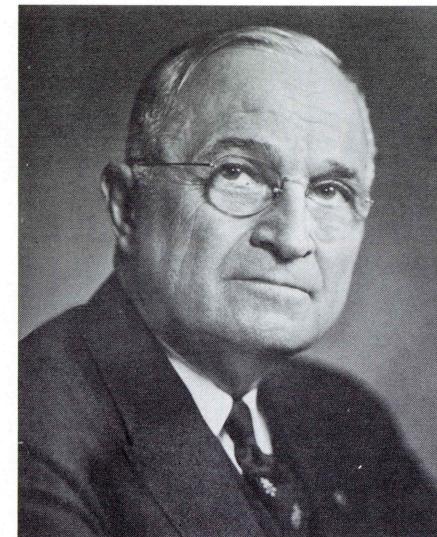
Mr. Truman became interested in the political scene and was elected Eastern Judge of the Jackson County Court in November, 1922. He was defeated for re-election in 1924 because of a local split in the Democratic Party. He was elected Presiding Judge of the Jackson County Court in 1926 and was re-elected in 1930. He was elected to the United States Senate in 1934 and was re-elected in 1940.

While in the United States Senate, Mr. Truman served as Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate the National Defense Program during World War II. It was in this capacity that Mr. Truman became a national figure. His effort to assist President Roosevelt with the problem of national defense gained for him great national support and was probably responsible for his nomination for Vice President at the Democratic Convention in 1944.

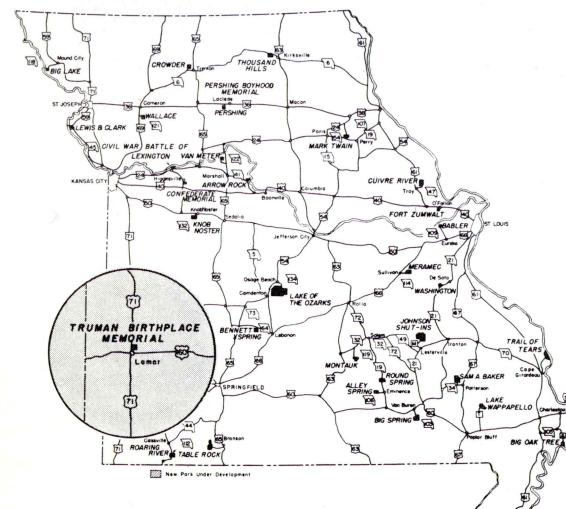
Mr. Truman was elected Vice President of the United States on November 7, 1944, and was inaugurated

on January 20, 1945. He succeeded to the Presidency on April 12, 1945, on the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. He was elected President on November 2, 1948, and completed his term on the 20th of January, 1953.

Mr. Truman returned to his home in Independence and maintains his office in the Truman Library in Independence, Missouri, an Archives Building for Presidential papers which is used as a national center for the study of the Presidency.



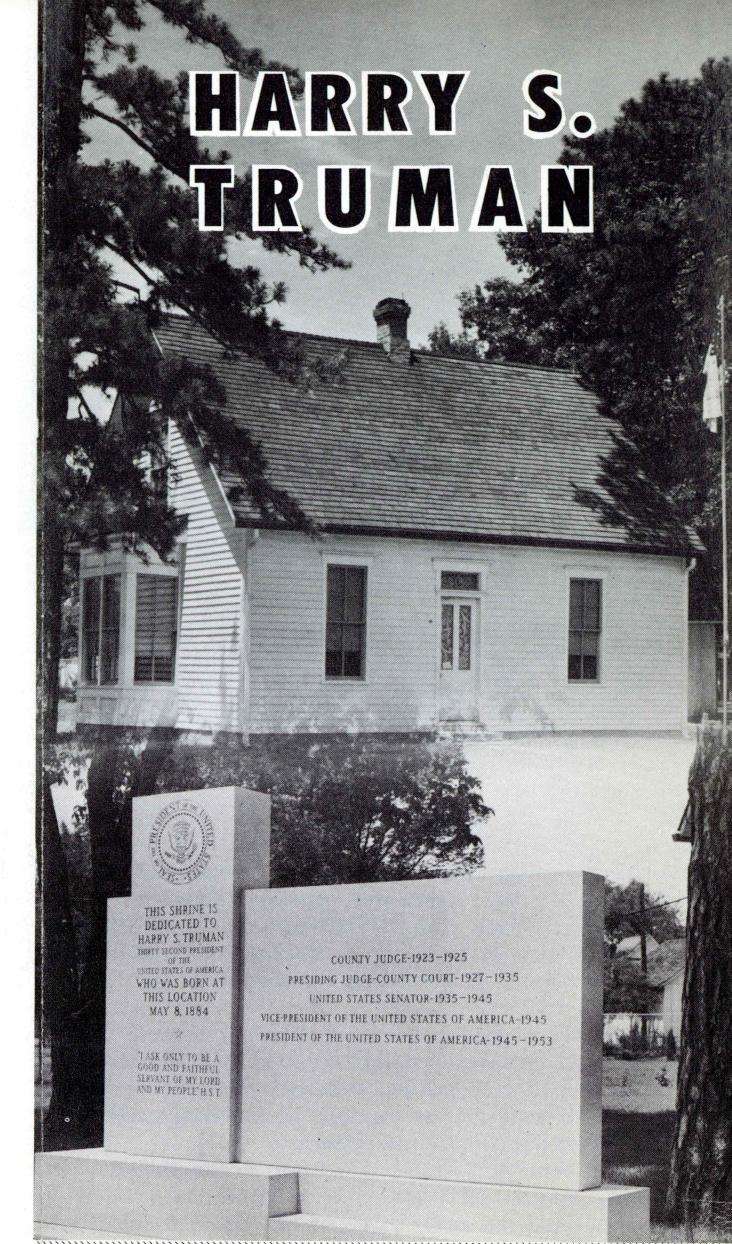
HARRY S. TRUMAN
THIRTY-SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



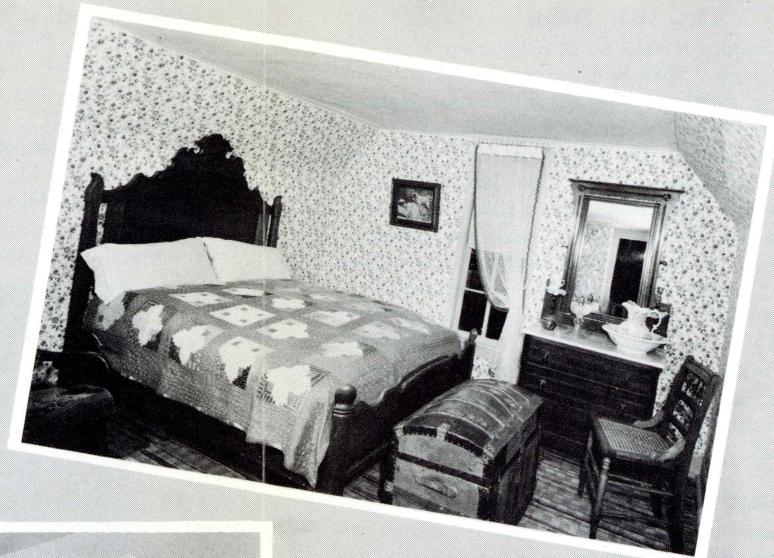
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HARRY S. TRUMAN



Birthplace
Memorial Shrine
LAMAR, MO.



Early History

Anderson Shipp Truman, paternal grandfather of Harry S. Truman, came from Shelby County, Kentucky, to Jackson County, Missouri, in 1846. He owned a farm at what is now Holmes Park and interested himself in promoting the settlement of the county.

He and his family went to Platte County, Missouri, in 1849, and he was a charter member of Rising Sun Lodge No. 13, A.F. & A.M., at Barry in Platte County. He was also a charter member of Raytown Lodge No. 391 in Jackson County, Missouri.

His son, John A. Truman, was born on the Jackson County farm in 1851 and died in 1914. John Truman devoted the early years of his life to farming and the raising of livestock in Jackson County. During this time he donated many hours to public affairs, working for constant progress and improvement in the Jackson County area.

On December 28, 1881, he married Martha Ellen Young, and they moved to Lamar, Missouri, where he continued farming and dealing in livestock until 1884. In 1882 they moved into a white frame house in Lamar which he had purchased for \$685. It was in this small white frame house, located on what is now called Truman Street, that a son was born to John Anderson and Martha Ellen Truman — who, in

later life, was destined to hold the most honored position in the world, and at a time when the destiny of the world rested on the shoulders of the man who held the position. The man — Harry S. Truman! The position — President of the United States!

On the Home

The Memorial, itself, has been completely restored and redecorated in the period furnishings as when Mr. Truman was born. The project has required great consideration and effort on the part of the Missouri State Park Board. This project was the direct responsibility of the Park Board. The end result serves as a fine example of the knowledge and skill required and demonstrated by the Missouri State Park Board in the completion of the Shrine, which was dedicated April 19, 1959.

The six room house is of white frame construction. When the project was started, the residence was in need of considerable repair in order that it be returned to its original state. All electrical facilities had to be removed and much of the interior finishing had to be restyled, as remodeling had not been consistent with the period of Mr. Truman's birth. Special mention goes to John A. Bryan, historical architect for the National Park Service, for his assistance during the restoration of the home now open to the public free of charge.

The Memorial serves a twofold purpose. It will serve as an example illustrating the mode of living and home furnishings common to the period around the turn of the century. Even more important, it will serve as a symbol of the birthplace of Harry S. Truman, whose personal sacrifices for his God, his nation and his people merited him the highest honor the United States can bestow — the office of the President of the United States.

The United Automobile Workers, who purchased the property and donated it to the State for the creation of a shrine, have erected a monument on the southeast corner of the property bearing the inscription, "I ASK ONLY TO BE A GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT OF MY LORD AND MY PEOPLE," as a tribute to Harry S. Truman, the 32nd President of the United States.